

GERMAN AGENT ESCAPES WITH VALUED PAPERS

Teuton Spy Disappears, Carrying Evidence Bearing on Plot Investigation.

ESCAPE MADE SATURDAY

Arrested Man Had Promised to Unravel Secret German Code Books.

SLIPPED OFF AT RESTAURANT

Nation-wide Search Being Made for Spy—Said to Have Taken Undecipherable Papers.

Special to The Washington Herald.

New York, Jan. 18.—A portfolio of papers invaluable to the government in its international spy plot investigation disappeared last Saturday from a Brooklyn restaurant with Ignatius Timothy Treblich Lincoln, confessed German spy, it was revealed tonight.

Lincoln had promised to unravel for the government secret German code books, according to an official. The baffling code of the Teuton secret service was found among the papers of Paul Koenig, Franz von Rintelen, and others who have come within the scope of the government's sweeping investigation of the bomb and arson conspiracies.

Lincoln calmly escaped from Deputy United States Marshal Frank Johnson by strolling out of a Brooklyn restaurant. The spy was awaiting extradition to England on a forged charge. Tonight's startling developments explain why the Department of Justice, co-operating with municipal and other Federal authorities, have thrown out a country-wide dragnet.

It explains also why there was a lapse of three days before the spy's escape came to public notice.

Only One Clue.

Lincoln has been on bail pending his appeal to the United States Supreme Court against an order of deportation to England.

In the meantime he made an apparently frank offer to the government to aid them in translating German secret codes with which he was familiar. It is these secret codes and other undecipherable papers which were in the portfolio he took with him when he escaped, according to a government official.

Capt. William Offley, chief of the local bureau of investigation of the Department of Justice, was much perturbed this evening when asked about the missing papers. He denied with a great deal of vehemence that Lincoln had succeeded in making away with some of the government's prospective evidence.

THEATER CROWDS SEE BLAZE IN F STREET

Overheated Furnace Causes \$8,000 Fire at S. N. Meyer Military Shop.

Two Alarms Sounded.
An overheated furnace caused a fire doing damage of \$8,000 in the S. N. Meyer military shop at 1325 F street northwest last night. The principal loss resulted from water and smoke, the damage is the building itself being but \$1,000.

The flames were discovered about 8 o'clock, the hour when the downtown streets were filled with people bound for the theaters.

The flames spread from the basement through the elevator shaft to the first floor. The second floor, a workshop maintained by the firm, was filled with smoke, dense clouds rolling out of the street windows. It was thought the fire was in that part of the building when the first alarm was turned in. The two alarms brought out eight engine companies, a water tower and four truck companies. The flames were quickly put under control, the firemen being on the scene about an hour.

COLD WAVE BROKEN.

Conditions Among Poor Alleviated By Rising Temperature.
The effect of the cold wave which struck the District several days ago is past.

For today, the Weather Bureau promises fair and warmer weather and for tomorrow continued fair and warmer. The conditions among the poor of Washington were somewhat alleviated yesterday by the rising temperature. The mercury rose to 23 degrees at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, where it remained almost steadily until early today.

Pre-eminently the Florida Route.
Atlantic Coast Line, N. Y. & Florida Special, 8:15 p. m. daily, leaves all-street trains daily, 1406 N. Y. ave. n. w.—Adv.

Adriatic Port May Go to Montenegro

London, Jan. 18.—Among the reported terms of peace following the conquest of Montenegro by Austria are the following:
Unconditional surrender of arms, including those held by non-combatants.

Mount Lovcen to be given up in exchange for an Adriatic port. Whole nation to be systematically searched for the purpose of preventing the formation of guerrilla bands. The entire male population is to be concentrated in specified districts.

Administration of all cities, villages, and railway lines to be taken over by the Austrians. The arms to be surrendered are all modern weapons.

GAS CAUSE OF E-2 ACCIDENT

Low Voltage Generated Hydrogen in Submarine, Inquiry Board Finds.

DANIELS DELAYS DECISION ON VALUE OF EDISON BATTERIES

Court of Inquiry Is Making Inquiry Into General Efficiency of Subs in U. S. Navy.

Hydrogen gas was responsible for the explosion on the submarine E-2 at the New York Navy Yard, resulting in the death of four men and injuries to a number of others, according to the report of the preliminary board of investigation convened by Rear Admiral Usher, commandant of the yard. The report's conclusions were made public yesterday by Secretary of the Navy Daniels. They were as follows:

"1. The board concludes the explosion was due to an excessive amount of gas, namely hydrogen, generated from the storage batteries, forming with the air a highly explosive mixture. That there were two pockets of this mixture, one at the after end of the battery and the other at the forward end of the forward battery; and it appears that the initial explosion occurred at the after end of the after battery.

Low Voltage Caused Generation.
"2. That the ignition was caused by a spark, the origin of which the board is unable to determine.

"3. The exact condition existing in battery compartments at the moment of the explosion cannot be determined, as Chief Electrician L. L. Miles, U. S. N., who was in charge at the time, and the other enlisted men in the compartment at the time, are too seriously injured to be questioned.

"4. The condition of the batteries at the low voltage and amperage, 32 and 90, respectively, at about 12:35 p. m., would probably cause a reversal of voltage in some of the cells, and, in the opinion of the board, this caused the generation of an excessive amount of hydrogen gas."

PEACE APOSTLE URGES FEDERAL ARMOR PLANT

Representative Sherwood, Whom Bryan Lauded for Anti-Defense Speech, Asks for Factory.

Representative Isaac R. Sherwood, a Democrat, who was commended by William J. Bryan and other Democrats for making a hot speech in the House in opposition to the administration's national defense program, yesterday introduced a bill appropriating \$5,000,000 for the construction of a government armor plant at Toledo, Ohio.

The Sherwood bill, which was referred to the Naval committee, provides "for the production and manufacture of munitions and implements of war of every kind and description for the use of the army, navy, and marine corps of the United States, and for fortifications and other works of defense."

In a letter to Mr. Sherwood commending his anti-defense speech former Secretary of State Bryan expressed the hope that the address would mark the beginning of a successful campaign against the policy of preparedness.

BRITONS URGE MILITARY BILL

Kitchener Says Measure Will Provide Enough Troops for War.
London, Jan. 18.—Passage of the military bill will provide England with all the troops she will need in the war, Lord Kitchener announced today in Parliament.

A similar statement was made by Walter Hume Long, president of the local government board.

These statements were made in speeches urging the immediate adoption of compulsory military service.

Payne Whitney's Stables Burn.

New York, Jan. 18.—The stables and garage on the country estate of Payne Whitney, at Manhasset, Long Beach, were destroyed by fire today with \$100,000 loss.

RETAILERS HEAR AD WORK LAUDED AT ANNUAL MEET

President Andrews and Publicity Expert Praise Efforts to Quash "Fakers."

SCHOOL PLAN IS RAPPED

Leader of Merchants Believes Present Board of Education Method Best.

AGAINST "STREET GARAGES"

Secretary of World's Advertising Vigilance Committee Suggests Club Be Formed to Carry on Fight.

Advertising in general, advertising in Washington in particular, and good and bad advertising formed the principal topics at the annual session of the Retail Merchants' Association in the Raleigh Hotel last night. An advertising club of District business men may be the outcome of a suggestion made at the meeting.

R. P. Andrews, in his report, said the year was an epoch-making period "for the reason it was in March that we inaugurated our 'Buy In and Boost for Washington' movement." He discussed the work of the association's advertising vigilance committee, which was begun in 1915.

Raps School Changes.

President Andrews said: "While the conduct of the city schools is not strictly a business matter, I am convinced that the perpetuation of our school system as at present organized will better fit our young men and women to engage in business. Keep our schools out of politics at all hazards."

"And I say this in the face of the fact that the personnel of the Board of District Commissioners at the present time is beyond reproach. If it were possible for them to perpetuate themselves in office I should say give them complete jurisdiction over the schools. But every body knows that is impossible, and so I am distinctly opposed to a change in school control and trust that this association will raise its voice in protest against the suggested change of jurisdiction."

The success of the association's credit bureau was also mentioned, as was "an earnest effort to encourage President Wilson to take cognizance of the present law covering the Saturday half-holiday for Federal and District employees." He suggested the formation of a committee to take up the Saturday half-holiday matter.

District traffic regulations were discontinued by the report. Such

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Minor Officers Handle Turrets

Admiral Fletcher's Report Complains of Conditions in U. S. Navy.

Sweeping indictment of the shortcomings of the American navy are set forth in the annual report, Admiral P. F. Fletcher, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic Fleet, which the Democrats of the Senate have suppressed.

The admiral states that at the June inspection one division alone of the fleet was short 1,350 men. Mine-laying ships, he declares, are 25 per cent below the number of men necessary for their proper operation, and he complains that the department has reduced the complement of the destroyers by 25 per cent.

He states that during the "battleship efficiency inspection" of the battleship Utah, a chief petty officer was in charge of one turret and an ensign was in charge of another. A pay clerk and a yeoman were in charge of the plotting room on one Dreadnought, doing work of experienced commissioned officers.

Charged with Unlawful Trading.

London, Jan. 18.—In Bow Street Police Court today, the English glove firm of Fowkes & Company, which has branches in New York and Germany, was charged with unlawful trading with the enemy. The offense consisted in importing into New York, from Germany, between September and December, 1914, goods valued at \$30,000. Bail was fixed at \$10,000.

Prohibits Direct Rubber Shipments.

London, Jan. 18.—It was announced today that the government has prohibited the shipment of rubber from British oriental ports direct to the United States. All rubber must now pass through London, and each consignment must receive a permit for trans-shipment to the care of the British consul in New York.

Prince Fined for Speeding.

New York, Jan. 18.—Prince Paul Troubetzkoy, sculptor and husband of Amelia River, the novelist, was today fined \$5 in Long Island Police Court on a charge of violating traffic regulations. He was driving a racing automobile. In the machine with him were three fine Russian wolf-hounds.

Citizens To Be Heard Today In Fight On School Change

Campaign Waged by The Washington Herald and Civic Bodies Against Commissioners' Plan to Abolish Board of Education Will Be Reached Before Subcommittee.

The climax of the campaign of The Washington Herald and citizens of the District against the proposal of the District Commissioners to abolish the Board of Education and assume complete control of the school system will be reached this morning, when representatives of the forty civic organizations that have adopted resolutions opposing the suggested plan will appear before a subcommittee of the House District Committee to voice their protest in emphatic and unmistakable language.

The occasion will be the opening of a two-days' hearing on the question of the proposed change. It will be before Representative Lloyd's subcommittee of the District committee, and will be held at 10:30 o'clock in the District committee room in the House Office Building.

President Henry P. Blair of the Board of Education will open the fight of citizens. Other members of the board will be present.

Delegations from citizens' associations will be at the meeting to further the argument.

Mrs. Mohr Is Tearless When Victim's Clothes Are Shown

By SOPHIE TREADWELL.

Providence, Jan. 18.—Just after court convened this afternoon a young man came striding in with an armful of what looked to be men's old clothes.

They were the clothes Dr. Mohr wore the night he was murdered. The unemotional young man who brought them into the court room, Assistant Attorney General Claude E. Branch, carried them unconcernedly past the dead man's widow. She knew them and bowed her head.

Later when, piece by piece, the State's attorney had the clothing identified by the young surgeon who had taken it from the dying man's body, she drew a black-bordered handkerchief from her muff and pressed it to her mouth. But no tears fell.

James E. Wallace, a country constable, told of the conversation he had with Mrs. Mohr when he was taking her in an automobile from Providence to Warren, two days after the murder. She had just left the office of the chief of police where Brown and Spellman had accused her of complicity in their crime. Wallace testified:

"Mrs. Mohr said to me: 'I've had a lot of trouble. The

public doesn't know what I have suffered, what I've been through. If any one else had suffered what I have suffered, they would have killed Dr. Mohr long ago.'

"I said to her: 'Didn't you have most of the doctor's property in your name?' And she said: 'Yes, but he threatened me; he was a dangerous man and I was afraid not to give it back when he demanded it. He told me that he would be good to me if I gave it back, so I did. He was good to me for two years after that.'

"Then I said to her: 'What kind of a looking girl is Miss Burger?' She said: 'She's a bleached blond. I used to be a good looking woman before I had this trouble. But I've failed a lot now.'

"I said: 'Well, I don't blame you, Mrs. Mohr,' continued Wallace, 'but I do blame you for getting tangled up with these niggers.' She said: 'Oh, you know you can never believe a nigger. Everybody knows they are all liars.' A few minutes later she said: 'I'm sorry for these boys.'

"And there it was—the first direct testimony involving the calm little woman in black with the murder.

SCHOOL PLAN IS OPPOSED

Board of Trade Hits Commissioners' Proposal for Control of System.

The Washington Board of Trade, with but one dissenting voice, yesterday opposed the recommendation of the District Commissioners that they be given control of the public schools of Washington. It also objected to the Commissioners' plan for increased and appointed power in the Board of Charities and Board of Children's Guardians, under which are a number of correctional and charitable institutions.

The board tomorrow will send two committees to the Capitol to oppose the Commissioners' recommendations. Chairman Lloyd of the House subcommittee on District affairs has agreed to give them a conference, beginning at 10:30 o'clock. The committee will take up the two resolutions adopted by the board, the public schools recommendation, and the charities and guardians boards matter.

The meeting of the board was a special session called by E. C. Brandenburg, president of the organization, for the members to consider "the two matters referred to the full organization by the committee on public schools and the committee on charities and corrections."

President Brandenburg appointed Frederick A. Fenning, chairman of the public schools committee; William R. Harr, James F. Oyster, Walter Klopfer, and Dr. Richard Kingsman to represent the board at the Capitol on the school change question, and William McK. Clayton, Walter C. Clephane, and John Joy Edson, to take up the matter of the charities and guardians question with Congress. Louis A. Dent, chairman of the charities and correction committee, was unable to serve on the committee to go to the Capitol.

Bulgars and Turks Want Peace!

London, Jan. 18.—A dispatch from Rome says information has reached the Italian capital from Athens that Bulgarian troops who entered Albania have been withdrawn, owing to dissension between the Bulgars and the Austro-Germans and that both Bulgars and Turkey are inclined to conclude peace with the allies.

Two Boy Skaters Drown.

Feduch, Ky., Jan. 18.—William Page and Wayne Keeler, aged 15, were drowned today when they broke through ice on which they were skating.

CABINET FIRMER IN RESOLVE TO WATCH AND WAIT

Strengthens Determination to Resist Demands for Intervention in Mexico.

SENATE URGES FORCE

Borah Intimates Upper Chamber May Take Question from Foreign Affairs Body.

IMMEDIATE ACTION DEMANDED

Lansing Issues Statement to Show Efforts Have Been Made to Keep Americans Out of Mexico.

The Mexican problem yesterday again occupied prime attention at the White House, State Department, and Senate almost to the exclusion of everything else. President Wilson and the Cabinet, at a two hours' session, reviewed the entire Mexican question and strengthened their resolve to resist demands for intervention.

The right to force the President to send armed forces into Mexico was renewed in the Senate. Senators Lippitt, of Rhode Island, and Borah, of Idaho, urged immediate intervention to protect Americans.

Secretary Lansing entered strong denial to assertions that the United States, in recognizing Carranza, entered into a compact with the Latin-American governments that would prevent the United States from intervening in Mexico without first consulting or acting in concert with those governments.

The State Department rushed the preparation of information on Mexico for presentation to the Senate in response to the Fall resolution.

No British Subjects Killed.

The British Embassy was notified that so far as the State Department has been advised, no British subjects were killed in the Santa Ysabel massacre. It was first thought A. Couch, one of the victims, was a Canadian. He proved to be an American.

At the close of the day and apparently as the result of the Cabinet discussion, Secretary Lansing issued a lengthy statement intended to show that the State Department had made efforts to keep Americans out of Mexico.

Senator Borah, of Idaho, intimated on the floor of the Senate that unless the Foreign Relations Committee, which meets today, reports out a resolution looking to intervention in Mexico for the protection of the lives and property of American citizens, a motion may be made to discharge the committee and bring the Mexican situation directly before the Senate to be disposed of.

Declares Ruler Betrayed Allies

R. Mackenzie, Rome Writer, Says Nicholas, of Montenegro, Aided Austrians.

By R. MACKENZIE.

Rome, Jan. 18.—Reports that the Montenegrins were heroically fighting the Austrians were false. On the contrary, they were secretly aiding them. They even informed the Austrians of the arrival of ships conveying provisions and munitions from Italy, thus enabling the Austrian submarines to sink the vessels. King Nicholas has been secretly league with the Austrians since October and practically solicited invasions of his country, which he betrayed with the object of concluding a separate peace.

This explanation fully justifies the attitude of the allies, who knew that to aid Montenegro, would be worse than useless. Had they supplied guns and ammunition to the Montenegrins, they would simply have fallen into the Austrians' hands.

King Nicholas alone is responsible for betraying his country. The majority of the Montenegrins, including his sons, are opposed to a separate peace, which is bound to lead, sooner or later, to the dethronement of the King.

French Bombard Bulgar Position.

Athens, Jan. 18.—Hundreds of Bulgarian soldiers are reported to have been killed and many more injured by a bombardment of the Bulgarian camp at Petritol (Petrit) by French aeroplanes. (Petrit is in Bulgaria, near the Greek boundary, between the Struma and Vardar rivers.)

Century Old Hotel Burns.

Mercer, Pa., Jan. 18.—The historic Humes Hotel and seven business blocks were destroyed by fire early today. The loss is estimated at \$30,000. The Humes Hotel was more than a century old and had housed George Washington and Marquis de Lafayette.

British Need Motor Boatmen.

Ottawa, Jan. 18.—The British admiralty has sent a request to the Canadian naval service department for experienced motor boatmen for the British auxiliary patrol service.

Italy's Total Losses Estimated at 134,000

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Rome, Jan. 18.—A semi-official statement given out by the war office, but censored, gives the total Italian losses, up to December 31, at 134,500, distributed as follows:

Killed, 31,000.
Wounded, 94,000.
Missing, 5,000.
Prisoners, 4,500.
Italy has been fighting since May 22, 1915.

It has been estimated that she has about 1,000,000 men on the Austrian front.

GERMANS DROP PERSIA CASE

Count Von Jagow Says Sub Captains Deny They Sank Ship.

AUSTRIANS PROBABLY WILL ALSO DISCLAIM ALL GUILT

U. S. May Be Forced to Allow Death of Consul McNeely on Ship to Go Unsolved.

Germany has washed her hands of any connection with the sinking of the P. & O. liner Persia in the Eastern Mediterranean on December 30. As a result of the destruction of this vessel, R. W. McNeely, United States Consul at Aden, lost his life. Germany has informed the United States, in substance, that whether the Persia was sunk by a submarine or a mine, no German submarine was responsible.

The information reached the State Department yesterday in an official dispatch from United States Ambassador Gerard, at Berlin. The Ambassador reported that he had been advised by Count von Jagow, the German minister for foreign affairs, that the German admiralty had received from all its submarine commanders operating in the Mediterranean region inquiries as to whether any of them had touched the Persia, and that all of them had answered in the negative.

It now remains for the German government to report to the United States the results of a similar inquiry which Count Burian, the Austrian foreign minister, promised United States Ambassador Penfield, at Vienna, he would make. It is expected in Turkish quarters here that the Austrian government will also deny that any of its submarines was responsible.

As the United States Government has never been able to obtain any definite evidence to show whether the vessel struck a mine or was torpedoed, officials are prepared to believe that the mystery of the Persia's destruction will never be solved and the reparation for the killing of McNeely will never be obtained.

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